

OPINION 1741

Gerris paludum Fabricius, 1794 (currently *Aquarius paludum*; Insecta, Heteroptera): specific name conserved

Ruling

(1) Under the plenary powers the name *alatus* Retzius, 1783, as published in the trinomen *Cimex najas* var. *alatus*, is hereby suppressed for the purposes of the Principle of Priority but not for those of the Principle of Homonymy.

(2) The name *paludum* Fabricius, 1794, as published in the binomen *Gerris paludum* and as defined by the lectotype designated by Andersen (1990), is hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology.

(3) The name *alatus* Retzius, 1783, as published in the trinomen *Cimex najas* var. *alatus* and as suppressed in (1) above, is hereby placed on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology.

History of Case 2794

An application for the conservation of the specific name of *Gerris paludum* Fabricius, 1794 was received from Dr N. Moller Andersen (*Zoologisk Museum, University of Copenhagen, Copenhagen, Denmark*) on 15 October 1990. After correspondence the case was published in BZN 49: 118–119 (June 1992). Notice of the case was sent to appropriate journals.

Decision of the Commission

On 1 March 1993 the members of the Commission were invited to vote on the proposals published in BZN 49: 118–119. At the close of the voting period on 1 June 1993 the votes were as follows:

Affirmative votes — 24: Bayer, Bock, Bouchet, Cocks, Cogger, Corliss, Dupuis, Hahn, Halvorsen, Heppell, Holthuis, Kraus, Macpherson, Mahner, Martins de Souza, Minelli, Nielsen, Nye, Savage, Schuster, Štys, Thompson, Trjapitzin, Willink

Negative votes — 1: Lehtinen.

No votes were received from Kabata, Starobogatov and Uéno.

Ride was on leave of absence.

Lehtinen considered that priority should apply; the type material of *Cimex alatus* Retzius, 1783 probably exists (para. 3 of the application), and the synonymy of the name with *Gerris paludum* Fabricius, 1794 had been interpreted by a well known specialist (O.M. Reuter). Thompson commented that most entomologists had ignored the names published in Retzius (1783) because they believed the work not to be consistently binominal.

Original references

The following are the original references to the names placed on an Official List and an Official Index by the ruling given in the present Opinion:

alatus, *Cimex najas* var., Retzius, 1783, *Caroli De Geer genera et species insectorum*, p. 89.
paludum, *Gerris*, Fabricius, 1794, *Entomologia systematica emendata et aucta*, vol. 4, p. 188.

The following is the reference for the designation of the lectotype of *Gerris paludum* Fabricius, 1794:

Andersen, N.M. 1990. *Steenstrupia*, 16: 59.